पैट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्री (श्री एम० एस० गुरुपदस्वामी): (क) और (ख) पोली सिलिकॉन। उत्पादन प्रौद्योगिकी के उन्नयन हेतु मैसर्स मैटकाम सिलिकॉन लिमि० को एक अनुसंधान और विकास परियोजना मंजूर की गई थी। इस परियोजना के मुख्य उद्देश्य पोली सिलिकॉन सामग्रियों के उत्पादन में ऊर्जा उपभोग को कम करना तथा ऐसे उत्पादन की लागत को क्रम करना है। यह परियोजना फरवरी, 1990 तक पूरी नहीं हुई। कम्पनी के अनुसार इस विलम्ब का कारण इस अनुसंधान और विकास परियोजना के लिए अपेक्षित उच्च प्रशिक्षित तकनीकी कर्मचारियों की भर्ती में होने वाली कठिनाइयाँ और वर्ष 1989 के अंत में लगभग चार माह तक चली श्रमिक हड़ताल थी। परियोजना उद्देश्यों को प्राप्त करने के लिए अब कार्य प्रगति पर है।

(ग) मैसर्स मैटकाम सिलिकॉन लिमि० को दी जा रही यह सहायता बेसिक पोलीसिलिकॉन के उत्पादन के लिए प्रौद्योगिकी से संबंधित अनुसंधान और विकास कार्य के लिए है। अन्य सिलिकॉन फर्मे केवल वेफर का निर्माण करती हैं और इन फर्मों से कोई विशिष्ट अनुसंधान और विकास प्रस्ताव नहीं आया है।

Salary and wage bills of M/s. Associated Journals Limited

1938. SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during the last three years the salary and wage bills of M/s. Associated Journals Limited at New Delhi have increased from rupees three lakhs to rupees twenty lakhs per month; and

(b) if the answer is in affirmative, the source from which the increased expenditure is met?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) M/s Associated Journals Limited bring out its publications from Lucknow, Delhi, Bhopal, Patna and Guwahati. The salary and wages paid by the company as disclosed in its Annual Reports amounted to Rs. 1.03 crores, Rs. 1.40 crores and Rs. 1.94 crores in the years ended the 31st of March, 1987, 1988 and 1989 respectively. There is no provision in the Companies Act requiring the company to disclose in its Annual Report the expenditure on each of its offices separately.

(b) The expenditure on salary and wage bills of a company are met from total income and not out of any specified sources. The Major sources of income of this company include circulation, advertisement and building rent, etc.

Proposed Research Centre on Lung disorders

1939. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a research centre for the study of lung disorders caused by industrial mishaps is proposed to be set up in Delhi;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the three organisations involved in the setting up of the centre, namely, the University of Delhi, the Indian Council of Medical Research and the Vithalbhai Patel Chest Institute are pulling the proposal in diverse directions, and

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RASHEED MASOOD): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha

Environment polluted in Assam due to mining by Coal India Limited

1940. SHRI BHADRESWAR BURAGOHAIN: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state

(a) whether Government are aware of

the fact that due to open cast mining by the Coal India Limited the environment in Assam, has been polluted to a great extent;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government to prevent the pollution in these mining areas;

(c) whether Government have received any memorandum from the Assam Government to prevent pollution created by the Coal India Limited in Assam; and

(d) if so, what steps are being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) to (d) The issue of environmental degradation caused by opencast mining by the Coal India Ltd. in Assam has been brought to the notice of Central Govt. by various distinguished persons and organisations of Assam.Chief Minister of Assam had also written to the Central Govt. on this issue in August 1988. On the basis of the complaints received, the Ministry of Environment & Forests had constituted an Expert Committee in 1988 to look into the environmental problems arising from the coal mining operations being carried out by Coal India Ltd. Opencast mining has resulted in damage to vegetation, pollution and siltation of water courses and deposition of silt in the flat agriculture lands. On the basis of the recommendations of the Expert Committee, the Govt. has decided to stop opencast mining in Tikak mine. The mining operations have since been stopped from 5th April 1990. The restoration works which, *inter alia*, include construction of toe-walls, check dams, gully plugging, terracing on the slopes and plantations thereon will continue. The Govt. of Assam had also set up a Technical Committee which had made a number of recommendations for implementation in the opencast sites. The implementation of control measures have also been monitored by the Assam Pollution Control Board.

Use of Official Language in CGHS

1941. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the use of official language has been given due importance in the CGHS dispensaries/hospitals;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to provide more Roman and Devnagari typewriters in the CGHS headquarters/hospitals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RASHEED MASOOD). (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The provisions of official language Act and rules framed thereunder are given due importance in CGHS dispensary/hospitals for progressive use of Hindi in the Official work.

(c) Action is in progress to supply more Devnagari Typewriters to CGHS Office.

Guidelines to Parents to Prevent Blindness

1942. SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Society for Prevention of Blindness, India has issued guidelines to parents to prevent blindness as reported in the Hindu of 12th March, 1990; and

(b) whether Government is likely to make this a part and parcel of text-books for school children and would prepare videos for screening on T.V. etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RASHEED MASOOD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Steps to be taken for prevention of